

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 4-15 are pending in this application after the present amendments, with claims 1, 6 and 11 being independent. Claims 1, 16 and 11 have been amended to more particularly recite various aspects of applicants' invention. Claims 1, 6 and 11 also recite that the outer blade portion is angled in a second direction opposite to the first direction of the angle of the inner blade.

The objection to the disclosure regarding the language relating to the leading edge being generally straight has been rendered moot by the removal of the objected to language from the pending claim. Also the objection to claim 27 has been rendered moot by the cancellation of that claim.

Claims 1, 4-11, 14-16 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Japanese '531 reference and also as being anticipated by the German '760 reference. Claims 21-25 and 27 were rejected as being unpatentable over the German '760 reference further in view of Fasano.

Without conceding the propriety of the rejections, the remaining pending independent claims 1, 6, and 11 have been amended to more particularly recite various aspects of the invention recited in those respective claims. Each of the claims now calls for a hub, and an inner blade portion that comprises two planar portions at an angle to each other. Each claim also calls for an outer blade portion that is twisted to have a gradually changing angle of attack along its radial length. Also, each claim recites that the inner blade portion has a radial length that is longer than the radial length of the outer blade portion, and that the inner end outer blades are angled at opposite directions.

These combination of features are not taught in the art of record as claimed, including the Japanese '531, German '760 and Fasano references. For example, Japanese '531 is not understood to teach or suggest in its drawing figures or English abstract that an inner blade is made from a compound plane surface and an outer blade is made from a gradually twisting surface along its length. The German '760 reference is not seen to overcome these deficiencies. Finally, Fasano also does not teach, *inter alia*, the combination of a gradually curved blade segment in combination with an angled planar or a blade segment made up of two angled planes as recited in the claims.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the application is believed in order and such action is earnestly solicited.

Docket No. 87335.3600
Application No. 10/082,222
Customer No. 30734

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at 202-861-1696 in an effort to resolve any matter still outstanding before issuing another action. The undersigned attorney is confident that any issue which might remain can readily be worked out by telephone.

In the event this paper is not time filed, Applicant petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036.

Respectfully submitted,

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